ABSTRACT

A WELDING TORCH

A welding torch (10) comprises an electrode (12), means to supply weld filler material (14), a nozzle (16) surrounding the electrode (12), means to supply inert gas (17) to the nozzle (16) and a shroud (18) surrounding the nozzle (16). There are means to form a seal (20) provided between the nozzle (16) and the shroud (18), the means to form a seal (20) is arranged to allow relative movement between the nozzle (16) and the shroud (18). The means to form a seal (20) comprises a plurality of rings (22,24,26). Each ring (22,24,26) has an aperture (28,30,32) and an outer diameter (34,36,38). The diameter of the aperture (28) in a first ring (22) is substantially the same as the diameter of the nozzle (16). The outer diameter (34) of the first ring (22) is less than the outer diameter (36) of a second ring (24). The outer diameter (36) of the second ring (24) is substantially the same as the diameter of the shroud (18). The diameter of the aperture (30) in the second ring (24) is greater than the diameter of the aperture (28) in the first ring (22). The rings (22,24,26) are slidably mounted to allow relative radial movement between the nozzle (16) and the shroud (18).

(Figure 1)